

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of detecting a damage feature within a structure, said method comprising the steps of:

a. embedding a plurality of thin piezoelectric ceramic sensors on said structure;

5 b. exciting a first said sensor so that said first sensor produces a responsive signal in said structure;

c. receiving said responsive signal at a second said sensor; and

d. determining the presence or absence in said received responsive signal of at least one predetermined signal characteristic related to existence of said damage feature.

10 2. The method as in claim 1, wherein said first sensor and said second sensor are the same sensor.